

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 7 are amended. New claim 8 is added. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed and no new matter is added by the amendments.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Keys et al. (US 4,932,161). Applicant traverses the rejection to the extent that it can be maintained.

The Final Office Action indicated that claim 1 only requires that a section of the window pane have at every position thereof the same radius of curvature, and that Keys et al. (figures 3 and 3) shows a section of the width and height of a pane having a constant radius of curvature. Claim 1 is amended to expressly require that all vertical sections have a same or single radius of curvature. As explained at page 18 lines 7-11, the claimed shape avoids undesirable distortion of light and images. Even though figures 2 and 3 illustrate a vehicle window having an arcuate curved vertical section having a same radius of curvature at every position thereof, and a curved lateral section having a same radius of curvature at every position thereof, the figures by themselves do not disclose that all vertical sections have a single or a same radius. The description of figures 2 and 3 only refers to structural elements 14 and 15 as windows (column 2 lines 10-68) and makes no further explanation of their shape. Drawings are intended as an aid to understand an invention. As explained at MPEP § 2125, drawings can anticipate if they clearly show the structure of the claimed invention, and show all of the claimed structural features. A reference that does not disclose that the drawings are to scale and are silent as to dimensions are of little value. *Hockerson-Halberstadt, Inc. v. Avia Group Int'l*, 222 F.3d 951, 956, 55 USPQ2d 1487, 1491 (Fed. Cir. 2000). Although figures 2 and 3 have a superficial resemblance to the claimed invention with respect to an individual section, they fail to disclose a vehicle window pane having an arcuately curved vertical section having a single or same radius of curvature for all vertical sections, wherein the curvature of the curved vertical section and the curvature of the curved lateral section are different from each other. Applicant respectfully submits that figures 2 and 3 of Keys do not anticipate claims 1 and 4. As claims 2 and 5 depend from claims 1 and 4, claims 2 and 5 are likewise not anticipated. Applicant request that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 be withdrawn on this ground.

Claims 3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Keys et al. (US 4,932,161) in view of Sakai et al. (US 4,219,968). Applicant traverses the rejection to the extent that it can be maintained.

Sakai et al. is cited for teaching a vehicle window glass having a compound curvature. Sakai et al. disclose a door window glass formed in the shape of a composite spindle surface by smoothly connecting a plurality of spindle surfaces in a vertical direction so that the radius of curvature along any vertical section of the window glass decreases in a downward direction (column 2 lines 8-24, and column 3 lines 37-39). Clearly, Sakai et al. do not teach or suggest a curved vertical surface having a single radius of curvature for all vertical sections. The combined teachings Keys et al. and Sakai et al. fail to teach or suggest the invention of claims 3 and 6. Also, claims 3 and 6 depend from claims 1 and 4, respectively. Claims depending from allowable independent claims are likewise allowable. Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 3 and 6 be withdrawn.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Keys et al. (US 4,932,161) in view of Sakai et al. (US 4,219,968). Applicant traverses the rejection to the extent that it can be maintained.

Claim 7 depends from claim 1. As amended, claim 7 recites that the window pane is coincident in profile with the pocket opening at all locations of the sliding movement. As noted above, Sakai et al. do not teach or suggest a curved vertical surface having a single radius of curvature for all vertical sections. Although Sakai et al., figure 6, disclose a pocket opening, an attachment space and a window regulator, figure 6 does not suggest that the window pane is coincident in profile with the pocket opening at all locations of the sliding movement. The combination of Keys et al. with Sakai et al. fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of claim 7. Also, as claim 7 depends from claim 1, claim 7 is likewise allowable. Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claim 7 be withdrawn.

New claim 8 recites a vehicle window pane in the context of the vehicle structure. The comments with respect to the allowability of claim 1 apply to claim 8. Keys et al. do not anticipate claim 8 as they do not disclose a window pane having an arcuately curved vertical

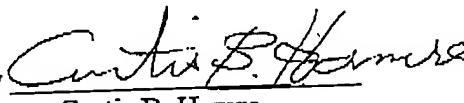
section having a same radius of curvature for all vertical sections throughout the width of the vehicle window pane. Applicant submits that claim 8 is allowable over the art of record.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,

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